(c) whether Government also propose to consult State Government/political parties in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government is in agreement with the decision taken in the all party meeting on reform of electoral laws held on 22.5.1998 that the existing position in respect of Delimitation of Parliamentary and State Assembly Constituencies, may continue till fresh delimitation becomes due as per existing constitutional provisions.

Recognition of Nidhi Companies

171. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what action is being taken by Government to give permission to Nidhi companies under section 620A of the act;

(b) what is the total number of applications pending with Government for such recognition; and

(c) by when these applications would be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (c) Non-banking Financial Companies can apply for declaration as Nidhi under section 620A of the Companies Act, 1956. As on 31.10.99, 122 applications are pending at various stages. On receipt of Reserve Bank of India's report and Auditor's certificate regarding compliance of directions issued by Reserve Bank of India and Department Company Affairs from time to time, these applications are further processed and desposed off. Department of Company Affairs has revised the guidelines for Nidhi recently on 1.11.99 to improve their working. Applications complying with the revised guidelines alone will be permitted to function as Nidhi.